TOM REED
23RD DISTRICT, NEW YORK

## COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY, REPUBLICAN LEADER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKER FAMILY SUPPORT

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

**Washington**, **DC** 20515 August 27, 2019 WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE 2263 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515–3223 PHONE: (202) 225–3161

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DIABETES CAUCUS, CO-CHAIR

Attorney General Barr U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr,

I am concerned for the safety of the traveling public along the stretch of Interstate 90 which runs through the Seneca Nation. According to U.S. Department of Transportation data using the International Roughness Index (IRI), a good road has around an IRI of around or below 95, and an acceptable road has an IRI between 95 - 170. As seen attached, the IRI for the part of I-90 that runs through Seneca Nation is "poor." The worst part of it is rated at 296. There is a small portion of the road that is around a 157.

However, if you have ever driven this stretch of road yourself, there is no need for a bureaucratic table to tell you this stretch of road is in deplorable condition and a threat to public safety.

Nevertheless, my second concern relates to the recent statement made by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo where he stated last week that the reason New York State will not repair the road, which they are legally bound to maintain, has to do with an unrelated political dispute between the Governor and the Seneca Nation over gaming revenues.

From the public's view, this appears to be nothing more than the Governor exacting political revenge on the Seneca Nation at the peril of public safety. The federal funds have been delivered to repair the road, and it is time to fix the road before someone dies.

Given this information, I kindly request the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the Governor and his office for the misuse of federal funds, the abuse of power and any and all other federal crimes, related or unrelated, uncovered in this investigation.

The safety of the traveling public is at stake, Mr. Attorney General – and we both know people are more important than profits.

Tom Reed

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

CC: U.S. Attorney for the Western District of New York Kennedy

